



ONK-1999-083-PA:DAC:136383

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
George Frey et al.) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 09/694,521)
Filed October 23, 2000) Group Art Unit 3731
DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES FOR)
POSTERIOR LATERAL DISC SPACE) July 27, 2001
APPROACH)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R § 1.56 and 1.98, Applicant discloses the following references on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form. This information has not been previously submitted in this application by the applicants.

The filing of this information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 or that any information cited is prior art to the present invention.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on **July 27, 2001**.

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative

Douglas A. Collier
Signature

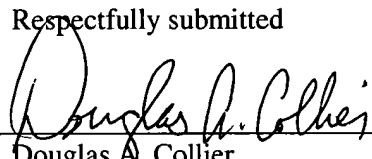
July 27, 2001
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The foreign language references marked with an * were cited in a Search Report in the present application's counterpart PCT Application US/00/41433. A copy of this search report is enclosed to comply with the requirement for a concise statement of the relevance of these foreign language references under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3).

This Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a First Office Action on the merits, therefore no fees are believed due for consideration of the enclosed references. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted

By: _____


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GP 3731

DNK-1999-083-PA:DAC:136391

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/694,521
Filing Date	October 23, 2000
First Named Inventor	George Frey
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	4002-2512

Total Number of Pages in this Submission

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure (please identify below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	X Return postcard
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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